

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (canceled): An adsorbent comprising a substantially syndiotactic styrene polymer.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~The adsorbent as claimed in claim 1,~~ An adsorbent comprising

a shaped article of substantially syndiotactic styrene polymer having a crystal structure and crystal lattice holes therein, which is produced by forming a complex of a substantially syndiotactic styrene polymer with at least one selected from an organic compound and a solvent ~~of which the~~ having a molecular size is equivalent to that of the organic compound, followed by shaping the complex into a shaped article having a crystal lattice structure wherein the article comprises the polymer and at least one selected from an organic compound and a solvent, and thereafter removing the organic compound or the solvent from the shaped article without substantially changing ~~the~~ crystal structure of the styrene polymer in the shaped article; thereby producing crystal lattice holes that are substantially the same size as the molecular size of the organic compound or solvent removed.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The adsorbent as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 2, which is produced by dissolving or swelling a substantially syndiotactic styrene polymer in an organic compound having an affinity for the polymer, followed by shaping it, and thereafter removing the organic compound from the shaped article.

Claim 4 (original): The adsorbent, which is produced as claimed in claim 2, wherein the shaping the complex is performed by a melt-casting process.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The adsorbent, which is produced as claimed in claim 2, wherein the removing the organic compound is performed by evaporation under reduced pressure.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The adsorbent, which is produced as claimed in claim 2, wherein the organic compound is an aromatic compound.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The adsorbent as claimed in claim 6, wherein the aromatic compound is selected from the group consisting of benzene, toluene, xylene, chlorobenzene, bromobenzene, dichlorobenzene, and trichlorobenzene.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The adsorbent as claimed in claim 1 2, which is for adsorbing an organic compound.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The adsorbent as claimed in claim 1 2, which is produced by forming a complex of a substantially syndiotactic styrene polymer with at least one selected from an organic compound and a solvent of which the molecular size is equivalent to that of the organic compound, melt-spinning the complex into fibers after or while the complex is formed, and thereafter removing the organic compound or the solvent from the fibers not substantially changing the crystal structure of the styrene polymer in the fibers.

10. (previously presented) The adsorbent, which is produced as claimed in claim 3, wherein removing the organic compound is performed by evaporation under reduced pressure.

11. (previously presented) The adsorbent, which is produced as claimed in claim 3, wherein the organic compound is an aromatic compound.

12. (previously presented) The adsorbent as claimed in claim 11, wherein the aromatic compound is selected from the group consisting of benzene, toluene, xylene, chlorobenzene, bromobenzene, dichlorobenzene, and trichlorobenzene.

13. (new) A method of making an absorbent, comprising  
forming a complex of a substantially syndiotactic styrene polymer with at least one selected from an organic compound and a solvent having a molecular size equivalent to that of the organic compound; followed by

shaping the complex into a shaped article having a crystal lattice structure wherein the article comprises the polymer and at least one selected from an organic compound and a solvent; and then followed by

removing the organic compound or the solvent from the shaped article without substantially changing crystal structure of the styrene polymer in the shaped article; thereby producing crystal lattice holes that are substantially the same size as the molecular size of the organic compound or solvent removed.